

THE TRUTH ABOUT VINELAND.

Sketch of the Settlement, Growth, and Character of Vineland, by an Old-time Communist—His Rapid Growth—Causes Which Have Operated Against Its Greatest Success.

From the Circular.

Vineland is a peculiar town. On visiting it I was surprised at its rapid growth. About nine years ago it consisted of only a dozen houses, and now it claims a population of at least 10,000 persons. It is well laid out and neatly built, containing five churches, some good stores, and two or three small manufacturing establishments. It has two weekly newspapers. One of the best dry-goods stores in the town is owned and conducted solely by two young ladies. There is not a groshop in the place, and it is supposed to be free from riot and crime. But having said so much for Vineland, but little remains to be urged in its favor. Property is beginning to decline in value, though unimproved building lots, eighty feet front on the main streets and one hundred feet back, are still held at \$100 each. Judging from my own observations, I should say that Vineland has reached its height of prosperity, and that it will have to struggle to maintain its present position. The town was built as a speculation on a site that no one but a speculator would have ever dreamed of selecting. It stands in a sandy plain, so level that from the four corners in the centre of the town one can look away four miles in either direction. There is neither river, creek, nor spring to be seen. The inhabitants are dependent upon wells, which furnish good drinking water. The absence of water power will discourage large manufacturing enterprises, and in case of fire the town would be almost as helpless as the flames, from lack of water to supply the fire-engines. Mr. Landis, a Philadelphia lawyer, zealously aided by the New York Tribune and other periodicals, has induced some ten thousand people to flock to Vineland, in confident expectation of finding a home, where money can be made with little effort in the business of raising fruit. Mr. Landis is supposed to have made a large fortune from his venture, while many of his colonists, who came expecting to enter a paradise of ease and plenty, have found difficulty in procuring the necessities of life. There is no good land in and around the town, or at least it may be made productive, since many of the villagers have fine gardens; but much of the country around is so sandy and poor that successful agriculture would first involve great expense for manures. Peaches and grapes do not thrive here as in some portions of the State. Dwarf pines and scrub oaks once found a congenial home in this soil. During the first years the labor of clearing the land was great, and caused much ill-feeling among the settlers. Landis and his supporters maintained that the stumps were excellent fertilizers if left to rot. Strawberries, raspberries, etc., yield well, and there are good markets in Philadelphia and other accessible cities. Still the golden dreams of the settlers have never been realized. The business of fruit preserving was started four or five years since, but failed from lack of competent management, or from some other unexplained causes. The founders of the Vineland colony made two grave mistakes, which in the commencement favored their enterprise, though they are now beginning to react with blighting effect. The first consisted in making a specialty of horticulture. Experience, the world over, should have taught them to lay the foundation of their material prosperity in manufacturing industry. The success of horticulture depends upon time, capital, and experienced and industrious workmen, all of which were sadly lacking at Vineland, quite as much as upon favorable climate, good soil, and convenient markets. Besides, an agricultural population of ten thousand should be scattered over quite an area, not crowded into a single village. The second, and even greater blunder, consisted in putting forth advertisements calculated to draw to the colony many who through indolence or incompetency had failed to make good homes for themselves in ordinary society. Resolute pioneers were wanted who would not be afraid of toil, who would not become discouraged by unavoidable hardships. No doubt some good representatives of this class were attracted, as the measure of success attained demonstrates as much; but it is also painfully obvious to the reflecting visitor, that a large portion of the people attracted were theoretical reformers and Spiritualists. An attendant at one of the meetings at Vineland, reporting to be of a religious character, convinced me that there is a preponderating element of Spiritualism in the town. In fact, a hazy atmosphere pervades the place. So far as my observations go, Spiritualists as a class are singularly unenterprising in business, and almost wholly unadaptable to the labor of creating either a prosperous city or thriving agricultural population. If people are shiftless and dreamy when scattered through ordinary society, there is little reason to hope that they will become good workers in a society composed largely of their own order. Some of the women wear bloomer costumes, and others, who still cling to long skirts, ignore the latest fashions. Women work at any calling they please, out of doors or in-doors, and deserve commendation for their independence in this respect. The town has, I understand, a number of literary and scientific people. I learned that many were anxious to sell out and leave the village. The town has not grown any for two years, and some assert that it has slightly fallen off in numbers. In view of these facts I was led to conclude, notwithstanding the laudations which have appeared in newspapers, that Vineland is not the success that it has been claimed to be. It is growth has been forced and unnatural, and it consequently lacks healthy vitality. Some of its reflecting inhabitants admitted this fact. On the other hand, the leading men of the town seem quite as sanguine as ever that Vineland will prove a permanent success.

THE ORIGINAL OF MISS MOWCHER.

Grace Greenwood, in the last number of Harper's Bazar, tells the following "Little Story of Charles Dickens":—

One morning in the summer of 1852, standing by the drawing-room window of a friend's house in London, where I was visiting, I remarked in the street below a very curious little brougham, drawn by a shaggy Scotch pony, and driven by either a dwarf or a very old and staid-looking boy, in a somewhat flashy livery. This queer establishment, which reminded me of Tom Thumb's turbot, was evidently waiting for some one then in my friend's house, and I watched with considerable curiosity for the appearance of that some one. At last I heard the hall-door open, and saw descending the high stone steps the strangest, quaintest figure of a woman—a dwarf, not more than three feet high, but very stout, and without form or comeliness. Her head was large, and she wore the large English bonnet of that time, elaborately ornamented with ribbons and flowers.

Indeed, her whole attire was gay and odd to the degree that might be called "stunning." She waddled rapidly across the sidewalk, carrying, I remember, a large bag, and sprang into her brougham with marvellous lightness and quickness, all things considered. As she was giving some directions to her coachman I caught a view of her face. It was evidently that of a woman of middle age, but it was full and florid, with a merry, confident, and even roguish expression, which might be called both bold and cunning. It was certainly very vivacious, and ludicrously wide-awake and knowing. Suddenly, it flashed upon me, as this singular person drove away, that I had seen the "counterfeit presentment" of little Miss Mowcher, the hair-dresser, shampooer, and whisker-trimmer of Steerforth, in "David Copperfield." This I remarked to my friend, who just then entered the room. She smiled, and replied quietly, "Yes, Miss — is the original of Miss Mowcher, and Mr. Dickens never drew a more perfect portrait." She then went on to tell me that the little woman, who, she said, was "a most excellent creature, was a professional chiropodist, and, I think, also a hair-dresser, and that she was doing a good business in London, owing much of her success to her eccentric, vivacious ways, and, perhaps, to an almost ludicrous deformity, which apparently had about it nothing painful or diseased. She always looked in abounding health, and her manner and voice were hearty to jollity. She had attended on Mrs. Dickens professionally, and during some of her ministrations Mr. Dickens had encountered her, it seemed, and had made a mental sketch of her in his marvelous way, as John Leech used to take heads on his thumb-nail in an omnibus or on the street. The poor little lady was very much hurt when Miss Mowcher appeared among the dramatic persons of "David Copperfield," and everybody recognized the picture, and many spoke to her of it, congratulating her or condoling with her on her questionable immortality. She thought, as some others thought at the time, that the odd, "voluble" little hair-dresser was to play a mischievous, malevolent part in the novel—was to be a sort of bad fairy, and with her grievance on her heart—which, after all her show, driving, absurd ways, her "tricks and her manners," was a good heart—she came to my friend, who was one of her kindest patrons, and talked the matter over, with tears of real distress. My friend advised her at once to write to Mr. Dickens, and frankly state her feelings and apprehensions, and show cause why judgment should not be pronounced against her; and she actually did write a protest, characteristically "voluble" in style, and yet, in passages, almost pathetically earnest. She assured him that there was room for a true womanly heart in her demure, puffy, unshapely body, "three feet by nothing"; that her eccentricities were, in great part, her stock in trade; that her rattling, slangy talk, and droll, sawing, were her best defenses against humiliating pity and condescension; though, perhaps, these exposed her to more humiliating suspicions. She told him something of her story—how she too had been obliged to cut her way through the "Forest of Difficulty," and to open a path for other feet, timid with youth or faltering from age.

It was the very letter to touch Charles Dickens, and it did touch him. A day or two later the little woman came to my friend, with her droll face all aglow with happiness and pride, and looking in her "morsel of a hand" a dainty-looking, blue-lined note. On the left-hand corner of the envelope was the autograph, so familiar to us now—Charles Dickens, the C so like a G, the two names confluent, and the seven-storied flourish and all. The note itself was brief, but most courteous; the novelist thanked his correspondent for her frank remonstrance, expressed regret that she had been pained, but bade her dismiss all anxiety and depend upon him to bring her out all right in the end. After the usual kind words with which he closed even the briefest notes, there was another full autograph, flourish and all.

The WEHAWKEN DUELING GROUND.—A ride of five minutes from the Elysian Fields brought us to the fatal spot where, in 1801, Philip Hamilton, at the age of twenty, was mortally wounded in a duel by George J. Eacker, and where, on the 11th of July, three years later, his father, Alexander Hamilton, was killed by Burr. Formerly, a marble monument, erected by the St. Andrew's Society, marked the exact place of the fatal encounter, and even as late as last year when I visited the spot a cedar tree against which Hamilton stood while the seconds were arranging the preliminaries was still standing. Now, however, the newly-completed road-bed of the West Side Railroad has destroyed the tree, besides removing every vestige of the narrow ledge on which the principals stood. After the monument had disappeared, two granite boulders occupied its place with the names "Hamilton" and "Burr" inscribed upon them respectively. After a somewhat protracted search, we found the one marked "Hamilton," but the one with "Burr" on it was nowhere to be seen. Inquiring of a gang of track-layers in regard to it, the foreman informed us that it had been used as a keystone in a culvert just above. "Could you not," we asked, "have used another stone and preserved this relic?" "Why, yes," answered the foreman; "but the boss said Burr was a blasted mean fellow, anyhow, and he guessed it would be more useful as a covering stone than keeping alive his memory."—Cor. N. Y. Evening Mail.

ROOFING.

PHILADELPHIA

Painting and Roofing Co.

TIN ROOFS REPAIRED.

All leakages in Roofs warranted to be made perfectly tight.

SPENCER'S GUTTA-PERCHA PAINT Will preserve Tin Roofs from Rusting and Leaking, and warranted to stand ten years without repainting.

This is the only Paint that will not crack or peel off. It is Elastic Paint; it expands and contracts with the tin, and leaves no cracks or seams open for water to get through.

SPENCER'S PATENT IRON PAINT, made expressly for iron work, warranted not to crack or peel off; will retain its beautiful gloss for five years.

All work warranted.

Philadelphia Painting and Roofing Company,

114th St. No. 53 N. SIXTH St., Philadelphia.

READY ROOFING.

This Roofing is adapted to all buildings. It can be applied to

STEEL OR PLAT ROOFS

at one-half the expense of tin. It is readily put on old shingle Roofs without removing the shingles, thus avoiding the damaging of ceilings and furniture while undergoing repairs. (No gravel used.)

PRESERVE YOUR TIN ROOFS WITH WEL-

I am always prepared to Repair and Paint Roofs at short notice. Also, PAINT FOR SALE by the barrel or gallon; the best and cheapest in the market.

W. A. WELTON,

No. 11 N. NINTH St., above COCKE,

FINANCIAL.

Wilmington and Reading

RAILROAD

Seven Per Cent. Bonds,

FREE OF TAXES.

We are offering \$300,000 of the

Second Mortgage Bonds of

this Company

AT 82½ AND ACCRUED INTEREST.

For the convenience of investors these Bonds are issued in denominations of

\$1000s, \$500s, and 100s.

The money is required for the purchase of additional Rolling Stock and the full equipment of the Road.

The road is now finished, and doing a business largely in excess of the anticipations of its officers.

The trade offering necessitates a large additional outlay for rolling stock, to afford full facilities for its prompt transaction, the present rolling stock not being sufficient to accommodate the trade.

WM. PAINTER & CO.,

BANKERS,

No. 36 South THIRD Street,

PHILADELPHIA.

AN EXCELLENT INVESTMENT!

10 Per Cent. First Mortgage

Land Grant Bonds

OF THE

Portage Lake and Lake Superior Ship

Canal Company,

At 95 and Accrued Interest.

Comps payable January and July at Ocean Bank, New York.

Secured by mortgage of the CANAL, its tolls, franchises, and EQUIPMENTS, and 800,000 ACRES of very valuable and carefully selected

IRON, COPPER, PINE, AND OTHER TIMBER

LANDS.

Worth at the low estimate five to eight times the amount of the mortgage.

Whole Issue \$500,000.

Of which a balance of only \$160,000 remains unsold.

This Ship Canal—after five years labor and an expenditure of nearly a million of dollars, besides nearly half a million more for machinery and equipment—is nearly finished, and will be entirely completed the present season.

The tolls on the present commerce of Lake Superior would not only pay the interest on these bonds, but large dividends also to the Stockholders. This trade will be increased immensely next season when the grain from the great wheat-producing regions of Minnesota shall pass by this route (as it necessarily must) to the seaboard, by way of the railroad from St. Paul to Duluth, now just completed.

Send for maps and circulars.

For sale at 95 and accrued interest by

B. K. JAMISON & CO., Bankers,

COR. THIRD AND CHESNUT STS.

PHILADELPHIA.

SEVEN PER CENT.

First Mortgage Bonds

OF THE

Danville, Hazleton, and Wilkes-

barre Railroad Company,

At 85 and Accrued Interest

Clear of all Taxes.

INTEREST PAYABLE APRIL AND OCTOBER.

Persons wishing to make investments are invited to examine the merits of these BONDS.

Circulars supplied and full information given by

Sterling & Wildman,

FINANCIAL AGENTS,

No. 110 SOUTH THIRD STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

Government Bonds and other Securities taken in exchange for the above at best market rates.

B. K. JAMISON & CO.,

SUCCESSORS TO

F. F. KELLY & CO.,

BANKERS AND DEALERS IN

Gold, Silver and Government Bonds

At Closest Market Rates,

N. W. Cor. THIRD and CHESNUT Sts.

Special attention given to COMMISSION ORDERS in New York and Philadelphia Stock Boards, etc.

SILVER

FOR SALE.

C. T. YERKES, Jr., & CO.,

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

No. 20 South THIRD Street,

PHILADELPHIA.

FINANCIAL.

A DESIRABLE

Safe Home Investment

THE

Sunbury and Lewistown

Railroad Company

Offer \$1,200,000 Bonds, bearing

7 Per Cent. Interest in Gold,

Secured by a

First and Only Mortgage.

The Bonds are issued in

\$1000s, \$500s and \$200s.

The Coupons are payable in the city of Philadelphia on the first days of April and October.

Free of State and United States Taxes.

The price at present is

90 and Accrued Interest in

Currency.

This Road, with its connection with the

Pennsylvania Railroad at Lewistown, brings

the Anthracite Coal Fields 67 MILES nearer

the Western and Southwestern markets. With

this advantage it will control that trade. The

Lumber Trade, and the immense and valuable

deposit of ores in this section, together with

the thickly populated district through which it

runs, will secure it a very large and profitable

trade.

WM. PAINTER & CO.,

BANKERS,

Dealers in Government Securities,

No. 36 South THIRD Street,

PHILADELPHIA.

JAY COOKE & CO.

PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, AND

WASHINGTON,

BANKERS

AND

Dealers in Government Securities

Special attention given to the Purchase and Sale of

Bonds and Stocks on Commission, at the Board of

Brokers in this and other cities.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

COLLECTIONS MADE ON ALL POINTS.

GOLD AND SILVER BOUGHT AND SOLD.

RELIABLE RAILROAD BONDS FOR INVEST-

MENT.

Famphlets and full information given at our office.

No. 114 S. THIRD Street,

PHILADELPHIA. (713m)

UNITED STATES SECURITIES

Bought, Sold and Exchanged on Most

Liberal Terms.

GOLD

Bought and Sold at Market Rates.

COUPONS CASHED

Pacific Railroad Bonds

BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Stocks Bought and Sold on Commis-

sion Only.

Accounts received and Interest allowed on Daily

Balances, subject to check at sight.

DE HAVEN & BRO.,

No. 40 South THIRD Street,

PHILADELPHIA.

NOTICE.

TO TRUSTEES AND EXECUTORS.

The cheapest investment authorized by law are

General Mortgage Bonds of the Penn-

sylvan Railroad Company.

APPLY TO

D. C. WHARTON SMITH & CO.,

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

No. 121 SOUTH THIRD STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

GLENDINNING, DAVIS & AMORY,

No. 45 SOUTH THIRD STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

RECEIVE DEPOSITS SUBJECT TO CHECK, ALLOW INTEREST

on standing and temporary balances, and execute

orders promptly for the purchase and sale of

STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD, in either city.

Direct telegraph communication from Philadelphia

HOUSE 10 NEW YORK.

12TH

MUNDY & HOFFMAN.

12TH

12TH

12TH

12TH

FINANCIAL.

A LEGAL INVESTMENT

Trustees, Executors and Administrators.

WE OFFER FOR SALE

\$2,000,000

OF THE

Pennsylvania Railroad Co.'s

GENERAL MORTGAGE

Six Per Cent. Bonds

at 95

And Interest Added to the Date

of Purchase.

All Free from State Tax, and

Issued in Sums of \$1000.

These bonds are coupon and registered, interest

on the former payable January and July 1st on the

latter April and October 1st, and by an act of the

Legislature, approved April 1, 1870, are made a

LEGAL INVESTMENT for Administrators, Execu-

tors, Trustees, etc. For further particulars apply to

Jay Cooke & Co.,

E. W. Clark & Co.,

W. H. Newbold, Son & Aertsen,

C. & H. Borie.

91 1m

LAKE SHORE

AND

MICHIGAN SOUTHERN

RAILWAY COMPANY

SEVEN PER CENT.